

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 6, 2005 has been fully considered by Applicant. Claims 1 and 5 are currently amended. Claims 2-4 have been canceled. Claims 6 and 7 have been previously presented.

Examiner Beliveau's suggestion to amend claims 1 and 5 to positively recite the limitations of Applicant's invention is gratefully appreciated. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended accordingly.

Claims 1 and 5- 7 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,585,838 to Lawler et al. Applicant believes that claims 1 and 5 as currently amended are novel over the '838 Patent to Lawler et al and therefore respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection.

Claim 1 has been currently amended to provide a television program guide display having a grid having a time bar to indicate the particular time period to which the display relates, a series of cells, each cell representing a program, and one or a number of cells representing a program channel, at least one of the cells selectable to select a program for viewing and wherein at least one or more programs indicated by one or more corresponding cells within the grid starts or finishes outside a time period represented by the time bar on the display, a display portion is generated on the display for each of the cells corresponding to the one or more programs. The display portions shows the time which has elapsed since the program started prior to the start of the time period represented by the time bar and/or the time of which the program will last beyond the end of the time period represented by the time bar. The display portion is generated simultaneously for two or more cells within the grid by the television program guide display. Clearly, Applicant's currently amended

claim 1 is novel over the '838 patent to Lawler et al. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection.

The '838 patent to Lawler et al. discloses a program schedule information in the form of a program grid and an associated program summary panel that displays more detailed information about a specific program within the grid. In contrast, Applicant's invention provides a display portion that is generated on the display for each cell corresponding to one or more programs. This feature is not found or suggested in either the '838 Lawler et al patent

It can be seen that in the '838 Lawler et al patent the display of detailed information in relation to only one program at any given time is disclosed. In contrast, Applicant's invention recites that a display portion is generated on the display for each of the cells corresponding to the one or more programs. Applicant's invention, as can be clearly seen, is particularly advantageous in that information may be calculated and displayed for multiple programs for which the information relates. In contrast to Applicant's disclosure, upon viewing the program guide of the '838 Lawler et al patent, a viewer may be aware that a program extends beyond the time limits of the current display but in order to assess the remaining duration or else the elapsed duration of any particular program, a user must select each program in turn to open a different display, or else must scroll along the time display until the end time before the program can be seen. Such a mode of operation as in the '838 Lawler et al patent is ineffective and troublesome for a user, since the benefit of providing program information within a grid is negated by the need to perform further operations to decide whether or not a particular program is suitable or desirable for viewing. Applicant's invention retains the grid format while providing additional information required by a user such that the user can decide on the suitability of all the programs within the grid at a glance.

In addition, the '838 Lawler et al patent discloses only the possibility of displaying the time remaining in the program being viewed (i.e. the time calculated as the difference between the present time and the end time for the program). Applicant's invention recites that a display shows the duration for which a given program extends beyond the start or end of the time period shown. Thus, such a time period is calculated from either the start of the time period shown or else the end of the time period shown instead of the current time. The display of this type of information is particularly beneficial since it can be provided in a format which is compatible with the program grid without confusion to a viewer and without the need to provide explanation of what the time period represents. For example, if the calculation was performed in respect of the present time, the display of such a time period would not be readily understood by a viewer unless an indication was provided of whether the time display was for the elapsed time, or else the remaining time for a program. Given the limited space available for the display of information within the grid format, the need to provide such information is clearly advantageous.

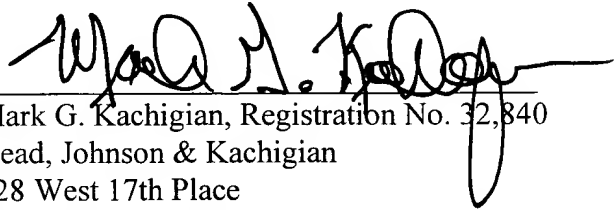
Applicant believes that the claims as currently amended are novel over the cited reference and respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection.

It is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If any further issues remain, a telephone conference with the Examiner is

respectfully requested. If there are any charges associated with this amendment, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge such charges to Deposit Account No. 08-1500.

HEAD, JOHNSON & KACHIGIAN

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark G. Kachigian', is written over a horizontal line.

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